

Last but not least are the 129 half-tone plates, representing over 350 species of plants. The book contains no list of these illustrations, but they may be classified approximately as follows: Photographs of vegetation, 3 per cent. (one of them is out of plumb, a very common but well-nigh inexcusable fault of half-tone cuts*); photographs of single plants in their native haunts (mostly by Bayard Long), 8 per cent.; photographs of whole plants removed from their natural surroundings (mostly by Stewardson Brown), 12 per cent.; photographs of fragments of plants (mostly pressed inflorescences of grasses, sedges and rushes), 34 per cent.; photographs of paintings of single plants by H. E. Stone, 31 per cent.; line-drawings of single plants (also by H. E. Stone), 12 per cent. The last three classes add little to existing knowledge, but they are useful for purposes of identification, like the keys, and they doubtless include some species which had not been figured before (outside of the small line-drawings in Britton & Brown's *Illustrated Flora*).

The book contains many other valuable features, which can hardly be mentioned in the brief space of a review. With such a splendid floristic foundation to build on, the time is now ripe for some ecologically-inclined botanist to make a detailed study of the vegetation of the same region, and thereby fill a long-felt want and perhaps win laurels for himself. It seems strange that more work like this of Stone's has not been done, especially in those parts of the country where botanists are most numerous and where some of them have ample leisure and resources.

ROLAND M. HARPER

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CLUB

MAY 29, 1912

The meeting of May 29, 1912, was held in the laboratory of the New York Botanical Garden at 3:30 P.M., Vice-president Barnhart presiding. Twelve persons were present.

The minutes of April 24 and May 14 were read and approved.

* See *Science* II: 35: 985. 1912.

Dr. R. A. Harper announced the death of Professor E. Strasburger.

A motion was carried instructing the officers of the club to nominate honorary members at the first fall meeting. On motion of Dr. Britton, Dr. Harper was invited to act with the committee.

Mr. B. O. Dodge referred to the recent death of Mr. Gustav L. Ramsperger, one of the oldest members of the club, and suggested that some action be taken in regard to the matter.

On motion of Mrs. Britton the chairman was requested to appoint a committee, with power, to prepare a suitable memorandum for incorporation in the minutes of the meeting, and the secretary was instructed to transmit a copy of the same to the family of the deceased.

The chairman appointed Dr. Hollick, Dr. Britton, and Dr. Rusby as such committee and they subsequently prepared the following memorandum:

The Torrey Botanical Club records with sincere sorrow the recent death, in the eighty-eighth year of his age, of Gustav Ludwig Ramsperger, who was elected to active membership in the Club on February 9, 1886.

Mr. Ramsperger was born in Germany, December 13, 1824; studied pharmacy as apprentice and assistant, and passed his final examination in 1850. In 1851 he came to America and opened a small drug store in Oliver Street. After a successful business career of sixteen years he acquired an interest in the Faber-Balluff pharmacy, on the corner of 6th Avenue and 38th Street, in which location he was equally successful and in a few years concluded to retire and devote himself to scientific work. He sold out his interest in the pharmacy, but shortly afterwards decided that he was too young to retire from active business and acquired a pharmacy in Brooklyn, at the corner of Fulton and Cumberland Streets, where he remained until he finally retired, on his sixtieth birthday.

Mr. Ramsperger held membership in the New York State Pharmaceutical Association, of which he was a charter member, and in the American Pharmaceutical Association, and was a

trustee and honorary vice-president of the New College of Pharmacy. He was also active in many literary, social, charitable and educational societies and institutions, as well as in those of science. He was also a member of the New York Botanical Garden and aided materially in its establishment and development.

To the members of the Torrey Botanical Club he will always be remembered as a genial companion and enthusiastic lover of plants, with whom it was both a pleasure and an inspiration to spend a day in the field.

N. L. BRITTON
ARTHUR HOLLICK
H. H. RUSBY

Dr. Britton then brought up a preliminary report on the state of the Underwood Fund, and submitted the following resolution which was adopted:

Resolved: That Miss Caroline Coventry Haynes be and is hereby appointed a Committee to solicit and receive contributions to a fund to become the property of the Torrey Botanical Club and to be a permanent memorial of the late Lucien Marcus Underwood, the interest accumulating on said fund to be used by the Torrey Botanical Club to aid in the illustration of papers published in its *Bulletin*, *TORREYA*, or *Memoirs*.

The application of Miss Jean Broadhurst for a grant from the Esther Herrman Fund was laid over, pending a more exact statement of the amount of money desired.

The first number on the announced scientific program consisted of a preliminary report on "The Genus *Tabebuia* in the West Indies," by Dr. N. L. Britton.

The paper when completed will be published in the *Bulletin*.

Mr. B. O. Dodge then gave a short account of certain features in the method of reproduction in *Ascobolus*.

Meeting adjourned.

B. O. DODGE,
Secretary